Deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage via U.S. First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Petition, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 15th day of January, 2004.

Re:

U.S. Patent Application of Invacare

Inventor:

Fought Application No: 10/044,826 October 19, 2001

Date Filed:

Wheelchair Suspension Having Pivotal Motor Mount

For: Docket No.

12873/04233

### Please acknowledge receipt of the following:

- Return receipt postcard

- Request under 37 CFR 1.8(b) (2 pgs.)

- Copy of Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission (1 pg.)

- Copy of previously transmitted correspondence (13 pgs.)



GROUP 3600

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CALFEE, HALTER & GRISWOLD LLP

1400 McDonald Investment Center DOCKETED Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2688

JUN 23 2004

T.A. IP. Dept. 

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#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PATENT

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 12th day of August, 2004.

Print:

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Fought

Examiner:

A. M. M. Boehler

Serial No.:

10/044,826

Art Unit:

3611

Filed:

October 19, 2001

Confirmation No. 8055

Attorney Docket No.: 12873/04233

For:

Wheelchair Suspension Having Pivotal Motor Mount

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

#### REQUEST UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(b) TO CONSIDER REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION TO BE TIMELY FILED

The Office held the above-identified application abandoned for failure to timely file a reply to the Office Action mailed on April 29, 2003. Applicant submits that a reply was transmitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.8(a) and requests the Office to consider the reply as timely filed as all requirements of 37 CFR 1.8(b) have been met previously or herein.

1. Applicant informed the Office of the previous transmission of the correspondence promptly after becoming aware that the Office had no evidence of receipt of the correspondence. On November 18, 2003, Examiner Boehler issued a notice of abandonment indicating that no reply to the April 29, 2003 Office Action was received. On November 24, 2003, Attorney Pejic discussed the notice of abandonment with Examiner Boehler during a telephone conference. Attorney Pejic indicated that a response to the Office Action was faxed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 29, 2003 and that an Auto-Reply Facsimile

Transmission confirmed the United States Patent and Trademark Office's receipt of the response. Examiner Boehler indicated that she would conduct a search for the missing response. On December 2, 2003, Examiner Boehler indicated to Attorney Pejic during a telephone conference that she was unable to locate the October 29, 2003 response.

- 2. On January 15, 2004, Applicant sent a request under 37 CFR 1.8(b) to consider reply to the office action to be timely filed. The request included a copy of the previous transmitted correspondence of October 29, 2003. In addition, the Applicant attested that a proper reply to the April 29, 2003 Office Action was transmitted to the Office on October 29, 2003. As evidence of this transmittal, Applicant included a copy of the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission from the United States Patent and Trademark Office indicating that 13 pages were received on October 29, 2003. A receipt postcard, stamped by the USPTO and dated January 20, 2004, was received by Applicant on January 26, 2004.
- 3. On August 6, 2004, Applicant became aware that the January 15, 2004 request under 37 CFR 1.8(b) to consider reply to the office action to be timely filed, although received by the USPTO, does not appear in the application file. An online search using the United States Patent and Trademark Office's Patent Application Information Retrieval database indicated that the application status remained "Abandoned -- Failure to Respond to an Office Action."
- 4. On August 10, 2004, Agent Pribisich discussed the status of the application with Examiner Boehler during a telephone conference. It was confirmed that the status of the application was "Abandoned -- Failure to Respond to an Office Action."
- 5. Applicant again attests that a proper reply to the April 29, 2003 Office Action was transmitted to the Office on October 29, 2003. As evidence of this transmittal, Applicant has included a copy of the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission from the United States Patent and Trademark Office indicating that 13 pages were received on October 29, 2003.
- 6. Applicant attests that a request under 37 CFR 1.8(b) to consider reply to the office action to be timely filed was sent to the Office on January 15, 2004. As evidence of this mailing, Applicant has included a copy of the front and back of the stamped and returned receipt postcard.

7. Applicant has included with this request a copy of the October 29, 2003 transmitted correspondence, as well as the January 15, 2004 mailed correspondence.

Applicant does not believe any fee is associated with a request under 37 CFR 1.8(b). If this is not the case, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0172. If there are any questions regarding this Petition, please telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Aug. 12, 2004

Risto Pribisich (Reg. No. 55, 859) Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP 800 Superior Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2688

(216) 622-8870

9200/3611

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**PATENT** 

certify that this document is being deposited with U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 15th day of January, 2004.

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Fought

Examiner:

A. M. M. Boehler

Serial No.:

10/044,826

Art Unit:

3611

Filed:

October 19, 2001

Confirmation No. 8055

Attorney Docket No.: 12873/04233

For:

Wheelchair Suspension Having Pivotal Motor Mount

JAN 2 3 2004 GROUP 3600

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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- 2. Applicant has included with this request a copy of the previously transmitted correspondence.
- 3. Applicant attests that a proper reply to the April 29, 2003 Office Action was transmitted to the Office on October 29, 2003. As evidence of this transmittal, Applicant has included a copy of the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission from the United States Patent and Trademark Office indicating that 13 pages were received on October 29, 2003.

Applicant does not believe any fee is associated with a request under 37 CFR 1.8(b). If this is not the case, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0172. If there are any questions regarding this Petition, please telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: <u>Jan. 15, 2004</u>

Mark R. Hull (Reg. No. 54, 753)

Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP

800 Superior Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2688

(216) 622-8419

United States ATENT AND RADEMARK OFFICE

TO:

Fax Sender at 2162410816

Fax Information Date Received:

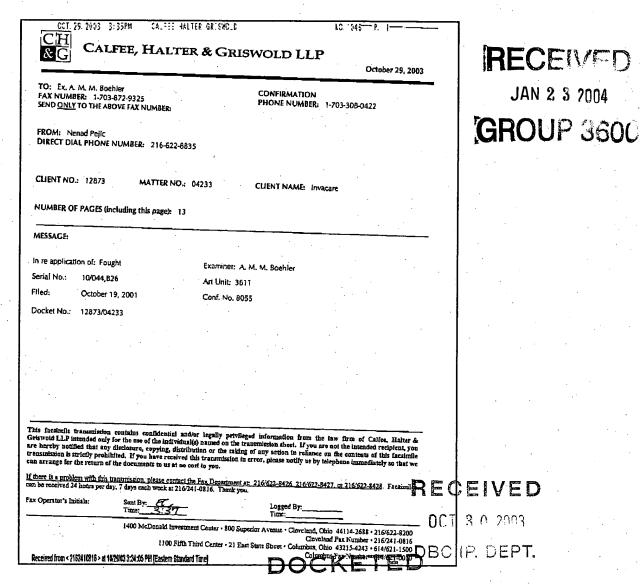
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13 (including cover page)

ADVISORY: This is an automatically generated return receipt confirmation of the facsimile transmission received by the Office. Please check to make sure that the number of pages listed as received in Total Pages above matches what was intended to be sent. Applicants are advised to retain this receipt in the unlikely event that proof of this facsimile transmission is necessary. Applicants are also advised to use the certificate of facsimile transmission procedures set forth in 37 CFR 1.8(a) and (b), 37 CFR 1.6(f). Trademark Applicants, also see the Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure (TMEP) section 306 et seq.

Received Cover Page ======>



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T.L.B. IP. Dept.



# CALFEE, HALTER & GRISWOLD LE

October 29, 2003

TO: Ex. A. M. M. Boehler

FAX NUMBER: 1-703-872-9325

SEND ONLY TO THE ABOVE FAX NUMBER:

CONFIRMATION

**PHONE NUMBER:** 1-703-308-0422

FROM: Nenad Pejic

**DIRECT DIAL PHONE NUMBER: 216-622-8835** 

**CLIENT NO.:** 12873

**MATTER NO.:** 04233

**CLIENT NAME:** Invacare

NUMBER OF PAGES (including this page): 13

MESSAGE:

In re application of: Fought

Examiner: A. M. M. Boehler

Serial No.:

10/044.826

Art Unit: 3611

Filed:

October 19, 2001

Conf. No. 8055

Docket No.:

12873/04233

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If there is a problem with this transmission, please contact the Fax Department at: 216/622-8426, 216/622-8427, or 216/622-8428. Facsimiles can be received 24 hours per day, 7 days each week at 216/241-0816. Thank you.

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that this communication is being sent via facsimile to 703-872-9325 this 29th day of October 2003.

Nenad Pejic Print Name

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#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner: A. M. M. Boehler

**Fought** 

Serial No.:

10/044,826

Art Unit: 3611

Filed:

October 19, 2001

Docket No.: 12873/04233

For:

Wheelchair Suspension having:

Confirmation No. 8055

**Pivotal Motor Mount** 

#### AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents Mail Stop Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

A three-month extension of time accompanies this response. In response to the Office Action of April 29, 2003, kindly amend the application as follows:

Listing of Claims including original and new claims begin on page 2. Remarks begin on page 6.

#### LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1. (canceled) A wheelchair suspension comprising:
  - a frame member;
  - a pivoting assembly having:
  - a pivot arm pivotally coupled to the frame and having a first engagement surface;
  - a drive assembly pivotally coupled to the frame and having a second engagement surface configured to engage the first engagement surface; and

wherein the second engagement surface is configured to disengage from the first engagement surface upon pivotal movement of the drive assembly in a first direction.

- 2. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [1]  $\underline{8}$  wherein the first engagement surface comprises a shoulder.
- 3. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [1] 8 wherein the second engagement surface comprises a cylindrical shape.
- 4. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [1]  $\underline{8}$  wherein the first engagement surface comprises an undulating surface.
- 5. (currently amended) The suspension of claim 3 wherein the cylindrical shape is received by the undulating surface.
- 6. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [1] 8 wherein the pivot arm and the drive assembly are pivotally coupled to the frame at a common location on the frame.
- 7. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [1] 8 further comprising a resilient member for regulating the second engagement surface disengage from the first engagement surface.
- 8. (currently amended) [The suspension of claim 1] A wheelchair suspension comprising:

  a frame;

#### a pivoting assembly having:

a pivot arm pivotally coupled to the frame and having a first engagement surface;

a drive assembly pivotally coupled to the frame and having a second engagement surface configured to engage the first engagement surface; and

wherein the second engagement surface is configured to disengage from the first engagement surface upon pivotal movement of the drive assembly in a first direction, wherein the pivot arm further comprises [a] first and second ends and wherein the first end has a castor assembly coupled thereto and wherein the second end comprises the first engagement surface.

- 9. (currently amended) The suspension of claim 6 wherein the pivot arm further comprises a first and second ends and wherein the first end has a castor assembly coupled thereto and wherein the second end comprises the first engagement surface, and wherein the common pivot location is between the first and second ends.
- 10. (canceled) A wheelchair suspension comprising: a frame;
- at least one pivot arm pivotally coupled to the frame and having a first engagement surface:
- at least one drive assembly pivotally coupled to the frame and having a second engagement surface;

wherein the pivot arm and drive assembly are pivotally coupled to the frame at a common location on the frame; and

wherein the first and second engagement surfaces are configured to engage each other upon pivotal motion of the drive assembly in a first direction and to disengage from each other upon pivotal motion of the drive assembly in a second direction.

- 11. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [10] <u>15</u> wherein the first engagement surface comprises a shoulder.
- 12. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [10] 15 wherein the second engagement surface comprises a cylindrical shape.

- 13. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [10] <u>15</u> wherein the first engagement surface comprises an undulating surface.
- 14. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [10] <u>15</u> further comprising a resilient member disposed between the pivot arm and the drive assembly to limit the relative pivotal movement therebetween.
- 15. (currently amended) [The suspension of claim 10] A wheelchair suspension comprising:

  a frame;

at least one pivot arm pivotally coupled to the frame and having a first engagement surface;

at least one drive assembly pivotally coupled to the frame and having a second engagement surface;

wherein the pivot arm and drive assembly are pivotally coupled to the frame at a common location on the frame; and

wherein the first and second engagement surfaces are configured to engage each other upon pivotal motion of the drive assembly in a first direction and to disengage from each other upon pivotal motion of the drive assembly in a second direction, and wherein the pivot arm comprises a front portion having [a] at least one caster coupled thereto and a rear portion having the first engagement surface.

- 16. (original) The suspension of claim 15 wherein the pivotal coupling of the pivot arm is between the front and rear portions of the pivot arm.
- 17. (currently amended) The suspension of claim [10] 15 wherein pivotal motion of the drive assembly in a first direction causes pivotal motion of the pivot arm and pivotal motion of the drive assembly in a second direction does not cause pivotal motion of the pivot arm.
- 18. (currently amended) A wheelchair suspension comprising: a frame having first and second sides;

first and second pivoting assemblies coupled to the first and second sides of the frame, each pivoting assembly comprising:

a pivot arm pivotally coupled to the frame and having a first engagement surface;

a drive assembly pivotally coupled to the frame and having a second engagement surface configured to engage the first engagement surface; and

wherein the second engagement surface is configured to disengage from the first engagement surface upon pivotal movement of the drive assembly in a first direction, and wherein the pivot arm comprises a front portion having [a] at least one caster coupled thereto and a rear portion having the first engagement surface.

- 19. (original) The suspension of claim 18 wherein the first engagement surface comprises at least a partially undulating surface.
- 20. (original) The suspension of claim 19 wherein the second engagement surface comprises a shape configured to be at least partially seated within the at least partially undulating surface.

#### Remarks

Reconsideration of the present patent application is requested. In this regard, all of the claims, except for claims 8, 9, 15 and 16, stand rejected based on prior art. Claims 8, 9, 15 and 16 stand objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 8 and 15 have been rewritten so as to be in independent form and claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the cited allowable subject matter. Also, the claims have been amended where necessary to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Additionally, Applicant filed on January 29, 2002 an Information Disclosure Statement and form PTO-1449 (4 pages) disclosing 52 references. A copy of the return receipt postcard is attached for reference along with the PTO 1449 pages disclosing the cited references. Applicant's respectfully request confirmation that such Information Disclosure Statement and references have indeed been considered by the Examiner.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that all of the claims in this case are now in a condition for allowance and an indication to that effect is earnestly solicited. Furthermore, if the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of this case, the Examiner should feel free to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Nenad Pejic (Reg. No. 37,415)

Calfee, Halter & Griswold, LLP

Customer No. 24024

Phone: (216) 622-8835

Fax: (216) 241-0816

This document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 this 23rd day of January, 2002. With a certificate of Mailing.

Re: IDS

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Fought Inventor(s):

WHEELCHAIR SUSPENSION HAVING PIVOTAL MOTOR MOUNT For:

12873/04233 (NP:jkb) CH&G Ref.:

#### Please acknowledge receipt of the following:

-PTO-1449 Form (4 pages)

- -Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages) in duplicate
- -52 References (50 U.S. Patents, 2 Foreign Patents)
- -Return postcard

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This document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 this 23rd day of January, 2002. With a certificate of Mailing.

Re:

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Serial No .:

Not Yet Assigned

Inventor(s): For:

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WHEELCHAIR SUSPENSION HAVING PIVOTAL MOTOR MOUNT

CH&G Ref.:

Please acknowledge receipt of the following: PTO-1449 Form (4 pages)

-Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages) in duplicate -52 References (50 U.S. Patents, 2 Foreign Patents)

Return postcard



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<del></del>	AA	3,573,877	Apr. 6, 1971	Locke				
<u> </u>	AB	3,602,522	Aug. 31, 1971	Zamotin	1	1		
	AC	3,661,228	May 9, 1972	Glasser		<del>                                     </del>		
	AD	3,664,450	May 23, 1972	Udden et al.		<del> </del>		
	AE	3,848,883	Nov. 19, 1974	Breacain	de la companya della companya della companya de la companya della	<del>                                     </del>		
	AF	3,976,152	Aug. 24, 1976	Bell				
	AG	4,119,163	Oct. 10, 1978	Ball				
	AH	4,128,137	Dec. 5, 1978	Booth				
	AI	4,222,449	Sep. 16, 1980	Feliz				
	LA	4,264,085	Apr. 28, 1981	Volin	RE	CEN		
	AK	4,310,167	Jan. 12, 1982	McLaurin	J	AN 23	004	
	AL	4,375,295	Mar. 1, 1983	Volin			<b>360</b> 0	
	AM	4,455,029	Jun. 19, 1984	Taylor	GH	UUF	3000	
	AN	4,483,407	Nov. 20, 1984	Iwamoto et al.				
	AO	4,513,832	Apr. 30, 1985	Engman				
	AP	4,545,593	Oct. 8, 1985	Farnam				
			FOREIGN	PATENT DOCUMENTS				
		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subcl.	Translation?	
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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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	AA	4,618,155	Oct. 21, 1986	Jayne			7 milg Date	
	AB	4,687,068	Aug. 18, 1987	Pagett		/		
•	AC	4,805,712	Feb. 21, 1989	Singleton	/	<del> </del> -		
	AD	4,823,900	Apr. 25, 1989	Farnam		<del>                                     </del>		
	AE	4,926,952	May 22, 1990	Farnam		<del> </del>		
	AF	4,962,942	Oct. 16, 1990	Barnett et al.		<del>                                     </del>		
	AG	5,123,495	Jun. 23, 1992	Littlejohn et al.	<u> </u>			
	AH	5,180,275	Jan. 19, 1993	Çzech et al.	<u></u>			
	AI	5,228,709	Jul. 20, 1993	Kao	D	ECE	VED	
	AJ	5,230,522	Jul. 27, 1993	Gehlsen et al.	— <b>D</b>		71	
-	AK	5,248,007	Sep. 28, 1993	Watkins et al.		JAN 2 3	2004	
	AL	5,341,533	Aug. 30, 1994	Seitz	G	ROUF	3600	
	AM	5,372,211	Dec. 13, 1994	Wilcox et al.		1001	-0000	
	AN	5,447,317	Sep. 5, 1995	Gehlsen et al.				
	AO	5,518,081	May 21, 1996	Thibodeau				
	AP	5,562,172	Oct. 8, 1996	Mick				
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Subst. Form PTO-1449			Atty. Docket No. 12873/04233			Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned	
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Initial*		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filing Date
	AA	Des. 397,645	Sep. 1, 1998	Schaffner			
	AB	5,833,248	Nov. 10, 1998	Eguchi			
	AC	5,851,019	Dec. 22, 1998	Gill et al.			
	AD	5,853,059	Dec. 29, 1998	Goertzen et al.			
	AE	Des. 404,693	Jan. 26, 1999	Schaffner			
	AF	5,904,214	May 18, 1999	Lin	·		
	AG	5,944,131	Aug. 31, 1999	Schaffner et, al.			
	AH	5,964,473	Oct. 12, 1999	Degonda et al.			
	AI	6,003,624	Dec. 21, 1999	Jorgensen et al.			
	AJ	6,070,898	Jun. 6, 2000	Dickie et al.			
	AK	6,129,165	Oct. 10, 2000	Schaffner et al.			
	AL	6,131,679	Oct. 17, 2000	Pulver et al.		NEC F	IVED
	AM	6,176,335	Jan. 23, 2001	Schaffner et al.	I	ILU	
	AN	6,196,343	Mar. 6, 2001	Strautnieks		JAN 2	3 2004
	AO	6,199,647	Mar. 13, 2001	Schaffner et al.		PO	3 2004 IP 360C
	AP	6,206,119	Mar. 27, 2001	Wu			
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Initial*		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filing Date
¢	AA	6,234,507	May 22, 2001	Dickie et al.			
	AB	6,312,000	Nov. 6, 2001	Pauls et al.			
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Examiner:				Date Considered:		-	

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



### **CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that this communication is being sent via facsimile to 703-872-9325 this 29th day of October 2003.

Nenad Pejic
Print Name

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Fought

Examiner: A. M. M. Boehler

Serial No.:

10/044,826

Art Unit: 3611

RECEIVED

Filed:

For:

October 19, 2001

Conf. No. 8055

JAN 2 3 2004

Docket No.:

12873/04233

**GROUP 3600** 

Wheelchair Suspension having Pivotal Motor Mount

#### PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (37 CFR 1.136(a))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

- 1. This is a petition for an extension of the time to respond to the Office Action mailed on April 29, 2003 for a period of three months.
- 2. Extension period and fee:

	(months)	Fee for <u>Large Entity</u>
	one month	\$ 110.00
	two months	\$ 420.00
	three months	\$ 950.00
•	four months	\$ 1480.00
	five months	\$ 2010.00
		Fee: \$ <u>950.00</u>
3.	An amendment/Missing Parts is filed	

4. Fee Payment

Charge Deposit Account No. <u>03-0172</u> for the above fee and for any additional extension fee required or credit for any excess fee paid. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Nenad Pejic (Reg. No. 37, 415)

(216) 622-8835